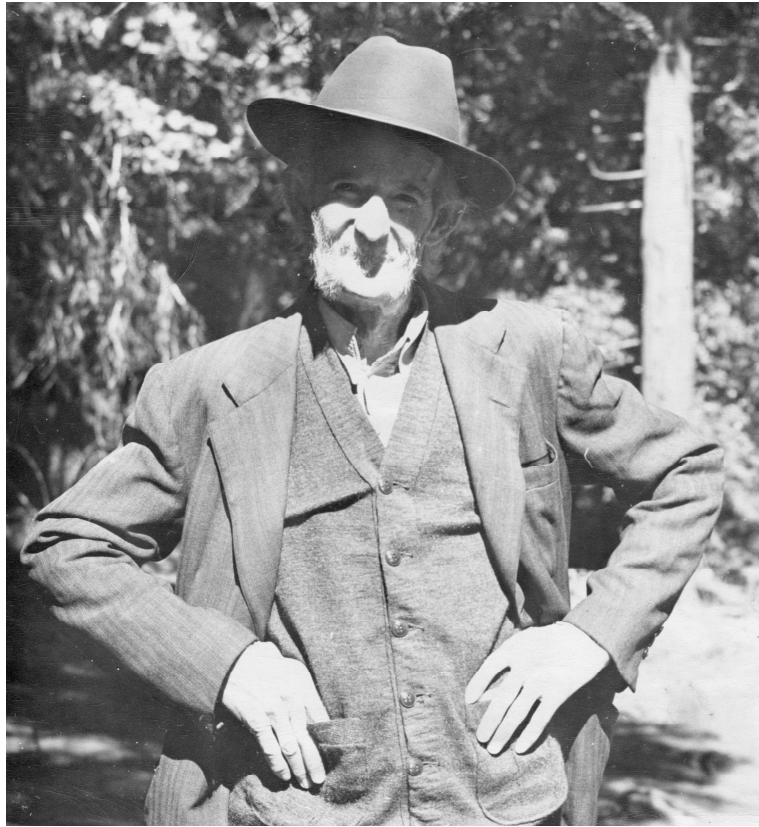


# 1919 - 1920 Diary

## Robert Haley Asher



**Robert Haley Asher, September 9, 1945**

Robert Haley Asher was born 28 March 1868, to Josephus Marion Asher, who was the first commercial nurseryman in the San Diego area, providing buyers with fruit trees, shrubs, & vines from his Fruit Vale ranch in Paradise Valley, National City. Robert Asher settled on Palomar Mountain in 1903, and ultimately had 160 acres, living in the Pauma Creek / State Park area. Robert Asher also lived off Palomar Mountain part of the year working as a nurseryman among other things. On Palomar, Asher photographed summer campers, then developed and sold them photos; he also sold postcards off his photos, trapped animals for pelts, collected and sold wild plants, picked apples, and worked odd jobs. Asher moved off Palomar Mountain in 1946 to his sister Mrs. Josephine A. Vacher's place on Fuerte Drive in El Cajon and continued to visit Palomar Mountain until 1951. Asher passed away on 25 April 1953.

These digitized pages are from the Robert Haley Asher papers (held by Peter Brueggeman). When Josephine Vacher's son vacated the family house in El Cajon, the family gave Robert Asher materials at that location to Peter, due to his Palomar Mountain history interests. Digitization of these materials and posting them to the Internet Archive is intended to enhance and preserve access to these materials.

Diary entries from December 8, 1919 to March 3, 1920.



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1919. Was camping in cabins on Susan Hayes Place, Doane Valley.

Dec. 8. Monday. Threatening. Ran trap line first thing in the morning. Kept going -- on to postoffice. 1 cat and 1 fox.

Dec. 9. Tuesday. Clear. Heavy frost -- ground frozen. ~~None~~  
Nothing in the traps.

Dec. 10. Wednesday. Clear. Heavy frost. Ground frozen. None

Dec. 11. Thursday. Clear. Ground frozen A.M. 1 coon. Young Hett got my mail and stopped for lunch. Hadn't much to ~~offer~~ offer him. Hett and his father have been here only a week, but they have ten skins already -- nine of them gray fox. The Hetts are at Hargraves. Late P.M. threatening rain again.

Dec. 12. Friday. Threatening and misty, but not cold. 1 fox and 1 skunk -- narrow stripes. One trap -- a No. 1 1/2 Jump gone. Big cat, probably. Spent hours hunting for it. Had ~~se~~ set the trap in the sandy wash near the French Valley Creek Lower Doane Valley. Trap was fastened to a 4-foot cedar ~~post~~ post. I followed the tracks out of the creek wash up the bank to the west and on up the hill through the Doane fence into the Si Frazer Place and finally lost them in the woods at the south line fence. Mr. and Mrs Bladen, from Bailey's stopped for a few minutes on their way to Hargrave's. Bladen's dog got his foot into one of my traps when they were on their way back to Bailey's in the afternoon. Dog howled bloody murder. Note; Bladen said afterwards that dog uninjured except his feelings. That my trap-set would have fooled anybody -- including himself.



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Dec. 13. Saturday. Heavy frost -- ground frozen. 1 skunk -- narrow. Young Hett (J.J.), got my mail. He had lunch with me upon his return from the postoffice. I was working all day on the traps. Mr. Hargraves went down the hill with load of apples.

Dec. 14. Sunday. Cold -- very. 1 skunk. Nearly half of my traps are out of commission -- but I did not reset any of them. Went over to Spruce Hill Camp after dinner. On my way back heard a dog howling a mile away. He had sprung one of my traps, but before I could get there he was gone.

Dec. 15. Monday. Frost -- but weather moderating. Thin high clouds overhead all day. 1 cat. 1 skunk. made 5 new sets S Si Frazer Place and near, Wrote G.W.M.

Dec. 16. Tuesday. Clear. Some frost. 2 coons. 1 skunk. Skinned last 4 skunks and the cat.

Dec. 17. Wednesday. Frosty. Am getting breakfast these days before daylight. Went up to postoffice first thing this morning to get the 10 lbs of flour brought up for me by Mr. Jolly -- our mail carrier. 2 good lynx cats (12 and 13 lbs) Skinned the cats. Hargraves passed on the way up home.

Dec. 18. Thursday. Cold. Ground frozen lightly. 2 skunks. Skinned the coons caught Tuesday.

Dec. 19. Clear. Frosty. 1 fox. Hett boy (J.J.) skinned 2 skunks and 1 fox for 85 cents. Mr. Hett came down with boy. Reports trapping about played out around Hargraves. Has 13 skins to date. Fish Jones came up from Pauma Ranch with truck to get Jack Adam's stuff which had been left in the



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Susan Hayes cabin. -- including two nice thick mattresses.

I went over to my own house for the night!

Dec. 20. Saturday. Cold and frosty in Doane Valley as usual but no frost Asher's Spruce Hill Camp. 1 fox. 1 skunk broad 1 coyote. The coyote had been wandering around ever since the 12th dragging a jump trap and a four-foot cedar post. He had tangled up in a bush part way up hill on the trail to ~~to Harry's~~, and not far from another set. This to east of Doane Valley and half a mile from the place on the west where I had lost signs of the dragging post. The coyote was a bit thin, but his foot was practically uninjured. A little hair rubbed off, but no swelling or discoloration externally and but little inside.

Dec. 21. Sunday. Clear and cold. Ground still frozen every morning. Did nothing on traps except to take out 1 bluejay.

Dec. 22. Monday. Weather the same. 1 badger. 1 ground squirrel. 2 skunks. Pulled up most of traps -- resetting around Oliver and Adams places. J.J. did not have time to skin the three animals caught today. Says will come tomorrow. Harry Hill came by before I got home in camp and left a jar of fruit -- a kindly act which is certainly appreciated.

Dec. 23. Tuesday. Weather ditto. Made a good catch in the traps set on the Adams place. Set 8 traps there and got 1 coon and 2 foxes. J.J. failed to show up for the skinning. Went up to store for grub.

Dec. 24. Wednesday. Weather ditto. 1 fox. J.J.H. turned up and put in the day skinning. I paid him the 60 cents I owed



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him for last time and \$2.50 for the work today. He was to have scraped the inside of the badger skin for 25 cents of it -- but did not have to so do. I put in the evening until quite late getting the fat off the badger, coon, and skunk skins. The badger took more time and labor than all the others put together.

Dec. 25. Thursday. Christmas. Weather same -- frozen ground. <sup>u</sup>  
1 coyote. 1 fox. No skinning today. ^

Christmas dinner at  
Hayes Place -- guest of Mr. and Mrs Jack Roberts. Present were Jack and Elsie Roberts, little Katherine, Miss Hayes, Harry Hill and wife (from the old Cleaver Place), Mr. Bladen and wife (in charge at Bailey's), Mr. William Beach (~~Pro~~ (from the Charnock Place near High Peak), and R.H.A.

Dec. 26. Friday. East wind. Clear. Some clouds. But little frost. 1 fox. 1 coon. J.J. skinned 2 fox and the coon.

R.H.A. skinned the coyote. Windy and warm.

Dec. 27. Saturday. Windy. East. no frost. Clear. No fur in traps. Pulled up all but one of the traps. Left trap (Mende) hanging up in Susan Hayes cabin. Hargrave up. Says I can camp in his cabin after the Hettis go. Went to postoffice for mail. None -- no money.

Dec. 28. Sunday. Doane Valley yet. Clear. Some frozen ground on shady sides. Hard wind at times all last night and today. Went over to Spruce Hill and back A.M. Stuck around camp most of P.M. Walked up hill after early supper. Saw Hargrave's down-hill tracks.

Dec. 29. Monday. Clear. Light frost. Wind still blowing.



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Went up to store at daylight for grub. \$2.90 -- on tick.  
Made arrangement with Mr. Bladen to take six of his No. ~~N~~  
~~Newhous~~ 3 Newhouse traps at \$1.50 each -- traps to pay for  
themselves. 1 coon. A.M. and P.M. set 11 of own traps along  
north side of the far end of Upper Doane Valley. Boiled  
new traps in water and ashes. Packed 14 skins for shipment.

Dec. 30. Tuesday. Clear. Frost in valley. Nothing but bait  
in traps. Shipped to Funston Bros. 14 skins. 4 coon(large)  
4 fox(average), 2 skunk(large broad), 2 skunk(narrow small-  
er), 1 lynx cat(large -- open -- 20lbs when trapped) 1 lynx  
cat(small -- open -- 7 lbs live weight).

Dec. 31. Wednesday. Cold yet. High clouds. 2 skunks. Skinn-  
ed skunks afternoon.



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Continuing entries from 1919 Still on Susan Hayes Place.  
1920.

Jan. 1. Thursday. New Years Day. Cold and high clouds. Set out the 6 Newhouse traps I got from Mr. Bladen after boiling them with fir leaves and ashes and greased with skunk oil. J.J.H. got some flour and baking powder. Mr. Hargrave went up P.M. with the four-horse outfit as usual. Charlie Stoessel from Hayes place was out afoot hunting through the Doane Valleys.

Jan. 2. Friday. At Spruce Hill Camp. Threatening and cloudy. Warmer. Hargraves went down about noon. Nothing in traps. Moved some of my stull from Doane Valley back to Spruce Hill.

Jan. 3. Saturday. At Spruce Hill. Cloudy and threatening. A little rain began about daylight. Nothing in traps. Slept Spruce Hill last night. Went up to postoffice. Got butter and 1 lb oats from Mrs Roberts.

Jan. 4. Sunday. Light rain A.M. Fog P.M. Looked over traps A.M. and got overcoat, etc., at the Doane Valley shack. Nothing in traps. Not even tracks in roads or trails.

Jan. 5. Monday. Spruce Hill. Foggy all day. Rain at night. Nothing in traps. No tracks anywhere except one animal around Oliver Place late P.M. in fog.

Jan. 6. Tuesday. Clear and cold. Ground frozen. 1 lynx cat in Bladen trap. No tracks visible anywhere.

Jan. 7. Wednesday. Heavy frost. Everything frozen hard. Clear A.M. Cloudy P.M. Nothing in traps. Foxes foot in one of Braden's traps No. 3 traps. I was afraid this



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would happen. Went up to Hargraves A.M. Saw the two Hetts. J.J. was hunting for a coyote that had gone off with trap and drag. No.1 1/2 Victor trap.

Jan. 8. Thursday. Hard frost. Light clouds high overhead A.M. 1 lynx cat. Went up to postoffice. Sent 10 skins per Jolly and Express from Escondido to Funston Bros., St Louis Mo. H.D.Bladen, Tustin, Calif. Cr. 2.90 -- 2.65 -- 9.00.

Jan.9. Friday. Spruce Hill. Very, very cold. Creek entirely frozen over in places Doane Valley. Nothing in traps. Skinned cat. Packed up bundle of 16 skins to send off tomorrow to Funston & Co. 1 coyote(Big), 3 fox, 3 lynx cat(cased -- large), 1 badger(large), 3 coon( 2 small), 5 skunk.

Jan.10. Saturday. East wind -- cold, freezing. Creek in Doane Valley frozen over. No skins. One jay. Went up to postoffice with 16 skins. Shipped to Funston Bros. Ordered from them 1 knife(\$1.30) and one dozen No. 2 traps. Hargra Hargraves went up. Got supplies at store. Bladen packing up to leave. 2.65 \_ 2.90\_9.00.

Jan. 11. Sunday. Clouds, Freezing. Snow on ground. East wind. Nothing in traps. Hargraves went down with last load of good apples. Walked down canyon to Tepee and Dug-out. Back by way of Lone Fir.

Jan. 12. Monday. Clear A.M. Cloudy late in day. Flurry of snow last night. Freezing hard. 1 coon. Skinned coon. Went down to Nate's to look things over. Charley Stoessel picked me up at Horse-Shoe Bend. Mr. Roberts is putting in a coup couple of bridges at H.S. Bend.



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Jan. 13. Tuesday. Clear. Freezing, but not quite so bad. Strong east latter part of night and this morning. Am getting very tired of continual east wind -- cold and dreary. 1 coyote(big), 1 skunk(big). Went up to postoffice. From store -- 5# oats, 1# butter, pint milk. Received letter from Josie inclosing "birthday present" of \$1.00 -- this is sort of turning things around -- it's her birthday that is coming along in a day or two -- mine doesn't come for months yet.

Jan. 14. Wednesday. Clear. Not quite so cold -- but plenty cold enough. East wind bad last night and all today. 1 cat. Skinned coyote, skunk, and today's cat.

Jan. 15. Thursday. Clear. Heavy frost -- but no wind -- for which am truly thankful. 1 lynx cat. Skinned the cat. Took the traps I have been pulling up the last few days in Doane valley to the Adams place again. Set seven.

Jan. 16. Friday. Some frost, but warmer. No wind A.M. East wind at noon. 1 fox(silver tip tail -- red fox?). 1 coon. Set three newhouse No. 3 traps on old Indian camp ground west of Adams orchard. Skinned the fox and the coon.

Jan. 17. Saturday. Clear. No frost. Heavy east wind last night and east wind all day. Nothing in traps. Went up to postoffice. No returns from Funston yet. J.J.Hett came back with me as far as the trail to Doane Valley.

Jan. 18. Sunday. Warm. East wind -- strong A.M. -- calmer P.M. Light filmy clouds high. Red sunrise. Sunday luck of nothing in the traps has deserted me -- had to take three



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animals out of traps. 2 skunks. 1 civet cat. Walked up to Bougher Hill A.M. Splendid view. Distant mountains -- beyond Elsinore Lake loveliest shade of delicate greenish blue imaginable.. Spent P.M. close to house reading, etc.

Jan. 19. Monday. Still at Spruce Hill. No frost. High cloud and threatening A.M. with a few drops of rain. Clear P.M. Fog part way in below. No wind. No fur in traps. Skinned yesterdays skunks and civet cat. While I was going over the trap line this morning a big cat stole the bait on the entrance trap (on my road), stepping on the spring but not on the pan. May get him later.

Jan. 20. Tuesday. Sharp white frost. Scattering high clouds Fog below. 1 coon (medium), 1 skunk (narrow). 1 civet cat -- worse luck! 1 blue jay. Set 4 pairs of traps around Silvercrest Camp A.M. Went on over to postoffice. Returns from first shipment of skins -- \$69.02 net for the 14 pelts. Coon and fox -- good price. Skunk -- indifferent. Two lynx cats -- disappointing. Skinned today's skunk and coon.

Jan. 21. Wednesday. Spruce Hill. White frost. Clear A.M. High clouds P.M. Fog below. 1 skunk. 1 fox. Charlie and Ray passed by Silvercrest while I was busy with the fox. Skinned civet cat, skunk and fox. Foggy toward night. Went over to Doane Valley for blankets and lantern.

Jan. 22. Thursday. Foggy -- but turning to rain! 1 fox. 1 skunk. Peter Jolly had Funston's check cashed -- \$69.02. He brought me flour, etc., from Valley Center store. Sent money orders to Wilms \$4, Bennett News (50 cts) Mr. Sabin (75



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cents), H.D. Bladen (\$5.50). I paid Jack Roberts in full of account (Apples -- \$4.86. Butter -- 75 cts. Oat meal -- 50 cents). Paid J.J. Hett 95 cents for skinning, and 25 cents extra for bringing packing groceries down to Spruce Hill.

Jan. 23. Friday. Rain last night. Drizzle all A.M. Fog P.M. Cleared off evening -- but fog below. 1 lynx cat. Skinned fox and cat. Worked with other skins.

Jan. 24. Saturday. Clear. Light white frost. No fog below. No wind. 1 lynx cat (large). 1 fox. Some animal has run off with Jump trap again -- drag and all -- Bougher Hill trail west of Silvercrest. Skinned cat and fox. Up to postoffice A.M. Shipped 10 skins to Funston Brothers per parcel post insured \$85.00). 2 coon, 2 fox, 2 coyote, 2 lynx cats (large cased). One coyote (open), and two fox were Bladen skins. Sent order with skins. Saw J.J. Hett, Peter Jolly, Louis Salmons, George Mendenhall, Jack Roberts, Mrs Read, Miss Hayes, Miss Roberts and Mrs Hill.

Jan. 25. Sunday. Clear. Light frost. Calm. 1 skunk. 1 fox. 2 coyotes. One of the coyotes had pulled the light drag into a big ceanothus bush and had tangled himself up good and plenty. I had no ~~shk~~ shooting iron, no room to swing a club, and he was too much alive to allow me to untagle his chain. I figured on the proposition for awhile. I had a 3-foot leather strap along. If I could only get the strap over his head and under his neck I would have him about where I wanted him. At least that's what I figured on. I fastened one end of the strap to a long stick, arranged a loop other end of strap, slipped the loop over the animal's



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head and part way under his chin -- and -- there it stuck. Coyote snapping at the strap -- if he once caught it -- good bye strap! There was evidently no time for half-way measures -- I eased myself into the bush, reached gingerly for the strap and worked under the canine's throat -- that is what I thought I was doing -- but -- well, I actually had my hand well back in the creatures mouth -- Mr. Coyote knew what to do -- and he did it. I managed to jerk my hand out -- covered with blood and ruined entirely -- at least it seemed that way. However, the Roberts house was not very far away, and I promptly abandoned the coyote to his fate. Jack and Elsie quickly got my hand into an almost boiling hot solution of potassium permanganate. Inspection of hand after removal of blood revealed two fingers gashed -- but no bones touched. While the Roberts were working with my hand Charlie Stoessel went over and shot the coyote.

Jan. 26. Monday. Light frost. Clear. Calm. Nothing in traps. The Hettis with their 3 burros went back to Valley Center. J.J. left the flour he had borrowed in a sack hanging on to a tree.

Jan, 27. Tuesday. Clear. No frost. No wind. Red sky before sun-up. Nothing in traps. Some fool horse nearly ruined two Newhouse No.3 traps at Silvercrest. Went over to postoffice. Harry Hill and wife have sold the Cleaver Place to Milton Bailey. Hill is looking for government land. Sent \$4.35 to Escondido Times Advocate in full of account. Sent \$3 to Sears, Roebuck Co. for pair suspenders, union suit and 4 pairs socks. Late dinner. Read Editor and washed clothes.



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Jan. 28. Wednesday. Almost frost, Clear. Fog near ocean. 1 skunk(broad). Ray -----caught a coyote east of Silvercrest last night. Ray and Charlie are making cider at Silvercrest. Went over the Doane Valleys looking for coon signs. Someone else been looking lately -- tracks! Skinned skunk and worked on other skins.

Jan. 29. Thursday. Slight frost. Clear. Calm. Nothing in traps. Received check and statement from Munston Brothers for the 2nd and 3rd shipments of skins. Satisfactory. Goods ordered received -- rifle, etc -- but no traps. Went over Hill's and down to the Dick Mendenhall cabin. Saw Roberts about camping at Silvercrest. Began moving up P.M. Sent m.o. 19.00 to Bladen in payment for 6 traps and the three skins he handed over to me. 45 cts to S.D. Trib for sub.

Jan, 30. Friday. Silvercrest. Sharp frost. Clear. 1 big fox. 2 ground squirrels got into the traps daytime. Packed up to Silvercrest the 19 skins from Spruce Hill Camp. Did not have time to reset traps. Pulled up traps Oliver Place. Skinned fox. Bundled up 19 skins -- 1 coon, 2 coyote(white tips), 2 lynx cats, 4 fox, 8 skunk and 2 civet.

Jan. 31. Saturday. Silvercrest. Warmer. Overcast and threatening until night when it cleared off. Some fog and a few of rain. 1 skunk. 1 coon. Set traps. Coon was dead in Jump trap & lost awhile back. It had pulled the drag down the mountain into a gully -- so I had missed it before. Shipped 19 skins to Munston Bros. Valuation -- \$95.00.

Feb. 1. Sunday. Sharp frost A.M. Threatening P.M., but part



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Feb. 1. Thursday. Frost. Clear. No wind. but partly clear at nightfall. Nothing in traps. Went down to Spruce Hill for my good clothes, etc.

Feb. 2. Monday. Frost. Cloudy. Hail P.M. Thunder about 3.30 in the afternoon. Nothing in traps. Went down to Spruce Hill for flour, etc. Coming back was picked up by a Mr. James. James and partner went into the Susan Hayes, Doane Valley, yesterday to camp. They have 100 traps. I set 4 traps east of old Cleaver place on Mendenhall land. Roberts says that I had better see Stanley Davis about other trappers coming in on my territory.

Feb. 3. Tuesday. Cloudy A.M. Rained and hailed P.M. Nothing in traps. Ray caught a cat near the carcass of the coyote he got the other day. I went over to Stanley Davises after running the trap line. He gives me sole right to trap in Upper Doane Valley. I then went down to the Susan Hayes and left notice on the door. On way back to postoffice ran across both boys -- James and Woods. I finally agreed to allow them to set their traps along south side of valley to garden fence. I am to have all east of that, all north of valley and east of the Hargrave-French Valley road.

Feb. 4. Wednesday. Frost. Clear, A.M. Afternoon threatening Clear at night. Nothing in traps. Took 4 traps down to Doan Valley and set 'em. Went down to Spruce Hill Camp for blankets etc. Got my stew pan, tea, nails &c en way at S. Hayes house on way back. Saw the boys. They had caught nothing either. Jack Roberts and Charlie Stoessel sawing wood with cross cut saw and engine.



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Feb. 5. Thursday. Frost. Clear. No east wind. Nothing in traps. Coon left two claws in one trap.

Feb. 6. Friday. Frost. Threatening late in day. 1 civet cat. N.G. Set six taps below Cleaver place.

Feb. 7. Saturday. Cloudy and threatening all day. Started out before daylight -- but too late -- one coon had chewed his foot off, and a fox had gotten out of a double-set, was in both traps. 1 cat -- caught late in the afternoon.

Skinned cat by lamplight. Pulled out my traps near the Doane cabins. Told boys they could have north side of valley (Upper Doane) west of second clump of willows -- leaving me the upper end of the valley and then hills to the north. Vanderford writes that he wants me to prune his orchard.

Feb. 8 Sunday. Rain and fog. Nothing in traps except two quail. Stuck around inside house A.M. Went over the trap line P.M. (Silvercrest) Some folks passed late afternoon in two machines.

Feb. 9. Monday. Rain last night. Fog and wind all day with showers. Nothing in Silvercrest traps. Did not run the east end. Three men with Jack Roberts over after cider. Friends of Jack's from Elsinore. Stayed in house most all day.

Feb. 10. Tuesday. Snowed last night and some in the morning. About 4 inches on the level. Coon chewed his foot off and got away from another of those No. 3 Newhouse. I pulled out all traps east of Hill's (Cleavers) and wrapped one jaw of each of the No. 3's with cloth wired on. 1 fox. 12 Victor



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No.1 Giant traps received from Funston's.

Feb.11. Wednesday. Clear. Cold morning. Snow melting fast on south slopes. 1 skunk(bad sore on shoulder). Fox chewed toes off in the one trap-set I had left east end yesterday. Hard luck surely! Reset trap for same fox. Put 10 traps in 7 sets around dead horse south of Roberts. Roberts 3 traps still there. He had caught nothing up to today; Half-soled shoes A.M. Wrote letter. Boiled and oiled No.1s.

Feb. 12. Thursday. Clear. Ground frozen. Snow yet. No wind. 1 fox. Skinned skunk and fox. Skunk skin bad on both shoulders. Nasty job. Dont want any more dead-horse skunks. The fox was probably the one that got out yesterday. Received 18 No.2 Victor traps from Funston. Returns from 3rd ship't.

Feb.13. Friday. Cold. Snow yet. 2 fox. Put in some traps th this side of Mrs Martins. Louis declares this vicinity is "always lousy with fox tracks". Partly skinned the foxes, but light too dim, so did not finish.

Feb.14. Saturday. Clear. Cold. Some snow yet. Wind from northeast last night and this morning. 2 fox. 1 coon(large) Mr. Roberts skinned 1 fox. I finished yesterday's foxes and fox and coon of today. The fox skinned by Mr. Roberts had been attacked by his dog and pulled out of the trap. The fox thereupon lit out for the tall timber, but Buster -- the dog -- chased after and caught him. Received books etc. from Funston.

Feb,15. Clear. Cold. No wind. Ground frozen hard. Snow yet. 1 fox. 1 hawk in trap.



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Feb. 16. Monday. Clear. Fog below. Ground frozen hard. Some snow. 1 fox. 1 skunk. 1 blue jay. Skinned 1 fox. Moved over here to Roberts where I am to board. Began with supper.

Feb. 17. Tuesday. Clear. Cold. Ground frozen. Snow. 1 cat. 1 ground squirrel. 1 hawk. Skinned cat and yesterday's skunk. Mr. and Mrs. Hayes came up for a stay of a day or two. Ray Mc Clard and Jack Roberts went to San Diego. Ray is buying the Hargraves place.

Feb. 18. Wednesday. Warmer. Threatening P.M. No wind. 1 fox. Jack and Ray returned. Skinned fox.

Feb. 19. Thursday. Cloudy turning to rain. Rain all P.M. I went over the trap line in the rain --- from postoffice to near Mrs. Martin's. Nothing in traps. 2 fox. 1 coon. 1 cat. I skinned 1 fox, coon and cat. Mr. Roberts skinned 1 fox.

Feb. 20. Friday. Raining all day. I went over the trap line in the rain -- from postoffice to near Mrs. Martin's. Nothing in the traps.

Feb. 21. Saturday. Rain all day. Did not look at traps. Received returns from 3rd shipment made to Funston's. Not satisfactory. My valuation was \$95.00 -- recd \$61.00+

Feb. 22. Sunday. Rain and wind all night. Raining all day. Did not go over the trap line.

Feb. 23. Monday. Not raining -- but dense fog from 8 A.M. Pulled out all but 3 of the traps. 1 fox -- dead. P.M. went down to Doane Cabins and took my blankets, etc., home to Spruce Hill.



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Feb. 24. Tuesday. Clear with frozen ground A.M. Later clouds and fog late P.M. Went over to Silvercrest before breakfast for some things. 1 fox -- dead in trap -- one of the three left yesterday. Didn't even know that it was set. A.M. went down to the Dick Mendenhall cabin and got the 30 traps then taking them over west of Stanley Davis's. Did not get around to Roberts for dinner. Didn't take along lunch.

Feb. 25. Wednesday. Clear. Cold. Frozen ground. More or less cloudy P.M. 1 fox. 1 gray squirrel. Skinned foxes.

Feb. 26. Thursday. Clear. Cold -- but warmer than last two mornings. 1 fox. 1 cat. 1 skunk. 1 yellow hammer. Put out two double sets for coon near Iron Spring Creek.

Feb. 27. Friday. Warmer, but frost. No fur in traps.

Feb. 28. Saturday. Cloudy and threatening all day. No fur in traps. A cat or some large animal got into a trap some distance northeasterly from the Roberts house. I was returning from my day's work on the trap line late in the afternoon when I heard a great racket -- dog barking, etc., in the direction of the trap. I left the road and got through the brush as quickly as possible, but when I was on only about 50 feet away whatever was in the trap broke loose and cut up the hill through the brush with Hill's dog full tilt after it. The trap was pulled to pieces -- scattered a long for twenty feet. Must have been a lion. If the dog had left him alone I would probably have got him. Dogs are a nuisance anyhow! Anywhere near a trap line! 1 ground squirrel



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squirrel. 1 gray squirrel. 1 yellow hammer. Hill's dog had eaten most of the yellow hammer. Made last trap set of the season 4.15 P.M. Upper Doane Valley.

Feb, 29. Sunday. Cloudy and threatening A.M. followed by rain. 1 fox. 1 cat. 1 ground squirrel. After noon stayed inside outer room of postoffice at Roberts and read,

Mar. 1. Monday. Rain last night. Threatening all day. Rain this evening. No fur in traps. 1 hawk. Pulled all traps -- last trap 10.06 A.M. Took part of traps home to Spruce Hill. Got some pine needles for Mr. Caldwell on the way back. Also some snails for Mr. Lowe. More snails P.M. Partly skinned cat and fox.

Mar. 2. Tuesday. 2.35 inches of rain last night. Cloudy, clear, and foggy during day. Finished skinning fox and cat. Gathered snails most of day. Charlie went down to San Diego Mar. 3. Mr. Jolly left his machine on the far side of the river and came the rest of the way with team. River high!

Mar. 3. Wednesday. Clear. Clouds close below. Frozen ground. Trees covered with ice. Pruning apple trees for J.P. Roberts on the Adams Place.

Roberts Cr.

Skinning 2 fox at 50c ----- \$1.00  
Board Feb. 17 to Feb. 25  
8 1/3 days at \$1.10 per.

No further entries in Diary. 1920.

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